AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-89. (Cancelled)

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a length of 8-40 nucleotides.

91-92. (Cancelled).

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is a stabilized oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of nonionic DNA analogs, alkylphosphotriesters, and oligonucleotides containing a diol.

94-95. (Cancelled)

96. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a length of 8-100 nucleotides.

97. (Cancelled).

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 104, wherein the formula is preceded on the 5' end by a T.

99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by an oral route.

100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered in an oligonucleotide delivery complex.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the oligonucleotide delivery complex is selected from the group consisting of a sterol and a lipid.

102-103. (Cancelled)

104. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a bacterial infection in a subject, comprising:
administering to a subject in need thereof a CpG oligonucleotide in an effective amount to treat the bacterial infection, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a modified phosphate backbone and wherein the CpG oligonucleotide comprises the formula:

$$5' X_1X_2CGX_3X_4\ 3'$$

wherein the C and G are unmethylated and wherein X_1, X_2, X_3 and X_4 are nucleotides.

105-132. (Cancelled)

133. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide does not include a GCG trinucleotide at a 5' and/or 3' terminal of the oligonucleotide.

134. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide does not contain a $5'X_1X_2CGX_3X_43'$ palindrome.

135. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide does not contain a $5'X_1X_2CGX_3X_43'$ palindrome.

136. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modified phosphate backbone.

137. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 135, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modified phosphate backbone.

138. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modification at a terminal internucleotide linkage.

139. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 137, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modification at a terminal internucleotide linkage.

140. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide includes phosphorothioate modification at the first and last internucleotide linkages.

141. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by injection.

142. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, 96 or 104, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by transdermal route.

143. (Canceled)

144. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96, wherein at least one of the nucleotides of the CpG oligonucleotide has a phosphorothioate modified backbone.

145. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is a stabilized oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of nonionic DNA analogs, alkylphosphotriesters, and oligonucleotides containing a diol.

146. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is a stabilized oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of nonionic DNA analogs, alkylphosphotriesters, and oligonucleotides containing a diol.

147-148. (Cancelled).

149. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered by an oral route.

150. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, wherein the CpG oligonucleotide is administered in an oligonucleotide delivery complex.

151. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 150, wherein the oligonucleotide delivery complex is selected from the group consisting of a sterol and a lipid.